

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Pyromechanical separating element having a hermetically sealed pyrotechnic pressure element (2), which is installed in a housing (1) and has a gas-forming pyrotechnic charge, and a detachable latching pin (5) which is separated from the pressure element (2) by a driving volume (19) and is inserted into the housing (1), wherein a first securing point is arranged on the housing (1) and a second securing point is arranged on the latching pin (5), and the latching pin (5) is anchored on the housing (1) by way of an arresting and force-limiting element (8).

2. (Currently Amended) Separating element according to claim 1, characterised in that the arresting and force-limiting element (8) is a plate spring with preferably crown-shaped incisions which in the latched state sits both in a latching-pin groove (9) in the latching pin (5) and in a housing groove (10).

3. (Currently Amended) Separating element according to claim 1, characterised in that the arresting and force-limiting element (8) is a sheet-metal ring or a spring ring which in the latched state sits both in a latching-pin groove (9) in the latching pin (5) and in a housing groove (10).

4. (Currently Amended) Separating element according to claim 1, characterised in that the arresting and force-limiting element (8) is a radial projection (18) on the latching pin (5) that engages into a housing groove (16) on the housing (1).

5. (Currently Amended) Separating element according to one of claims 1 to 4

claim 1, characterised in that arranged on the outer circumference of the latching pin (5) there is a sealing ring (29-sie) which is let into a groove.

6. (New) Separating element according to claim 2, characterised in that arranged on the outer circumference of the latching pin there is a sealing ring which is let into a groove.

7. (New) Separating element according to claim 3, characterised in that arranged on the outer circumference of the latching pin there is a sealing ring which is let into a groove.

8. (New) Separating element according to claim 4, characterised in that arranged on the outer circumference of the latching pin there is a sealing ring which is let into a groove.

9. (New) Separating element according to claim 2, characterised in that the plate spring has crown shaped incisions.

10. (New) Separating element according to claim 1, characterised in that the arresting and force-limiting element is selected from the group consisting of a plate spring which in the latched state sits both in a latching-pin groove in the latching pin and in a housing groove, a sheet-metal ring or a spring ring which in the latched state sits both in a latching-pin groove in the latching pin and in a housing groove, and a radial projection on the latching pin that engages into a housing groove on the housing.